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PORTRAITS
OF THE
PRINCES & PEOPLE OF INDIA
BY THE HONBLE
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SON OF THE NAWAUB OF BANDA.

DRAWN ON THE STONE BY L. DICKINSON.

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1.

Dost Mahomed Khan, formerly Chief of Cabool.

Mahomed Akram Khan, his Son, who delivered himself up to the English after his father had surrendered. This son is of mild character and manners, and appears attached to European society.

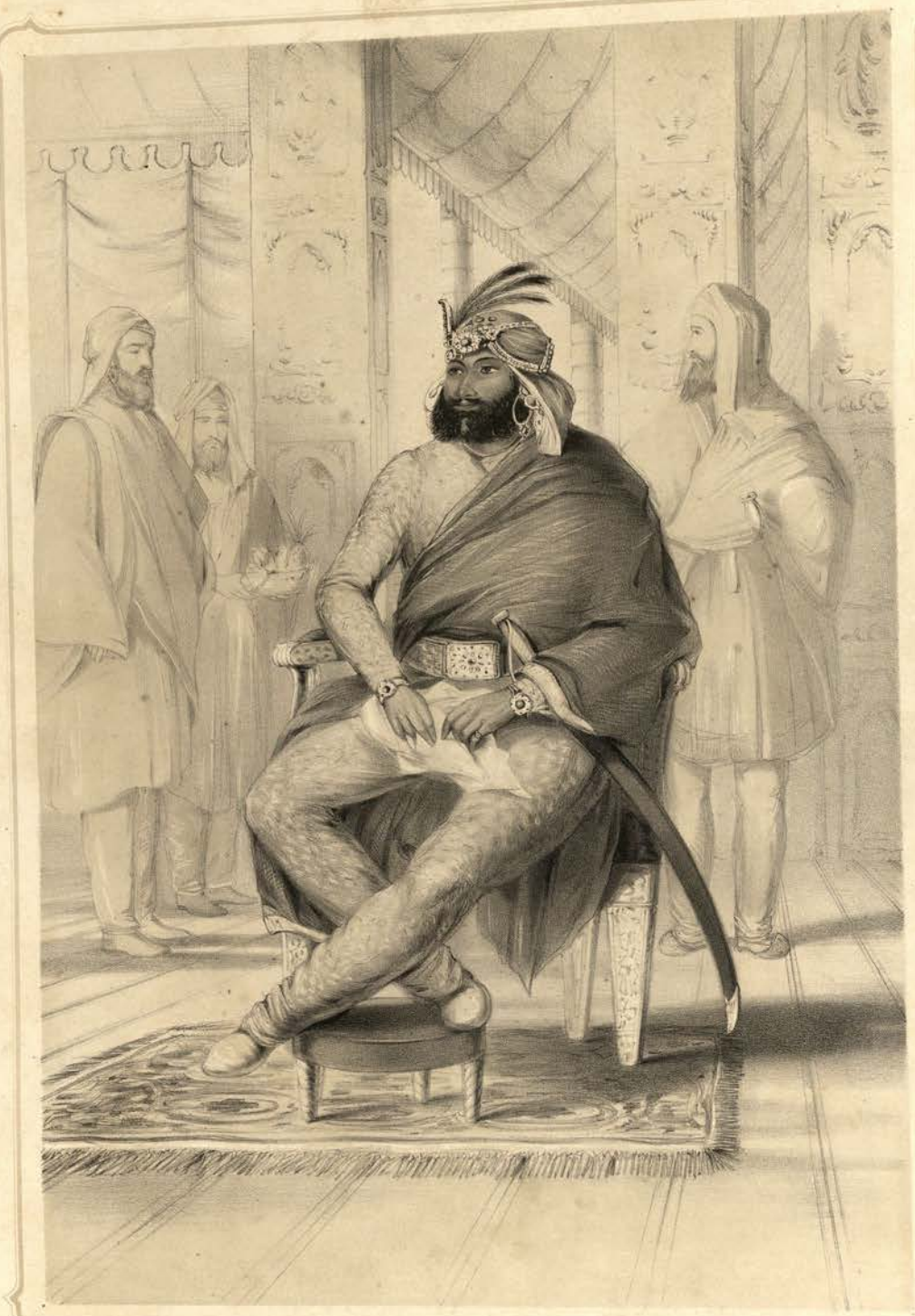
Hyder Khan, one of the younger sons of Dost Mahomed Khan, formerly Governor of Ghuznee. He was taken prisoner when that Fortress was captured by Lord Keane, in 1839, and accompanied him to India. He lived for sometime at Bombay, and subsequently with his father in Calcutta and other parts of Bengal. He is stout and remarkably good humoured in appearance and address.

Abdool Ghunee Khan, cousin of Dost Mahomed Khan. This person was confidential adviser of Dost Mahomed Khan, when in India, and had a very useful influence over him. He is a man of much shrewdness and ability.

DOST MAHOMED KHAN AND PART OF HIS FAMILY

2.

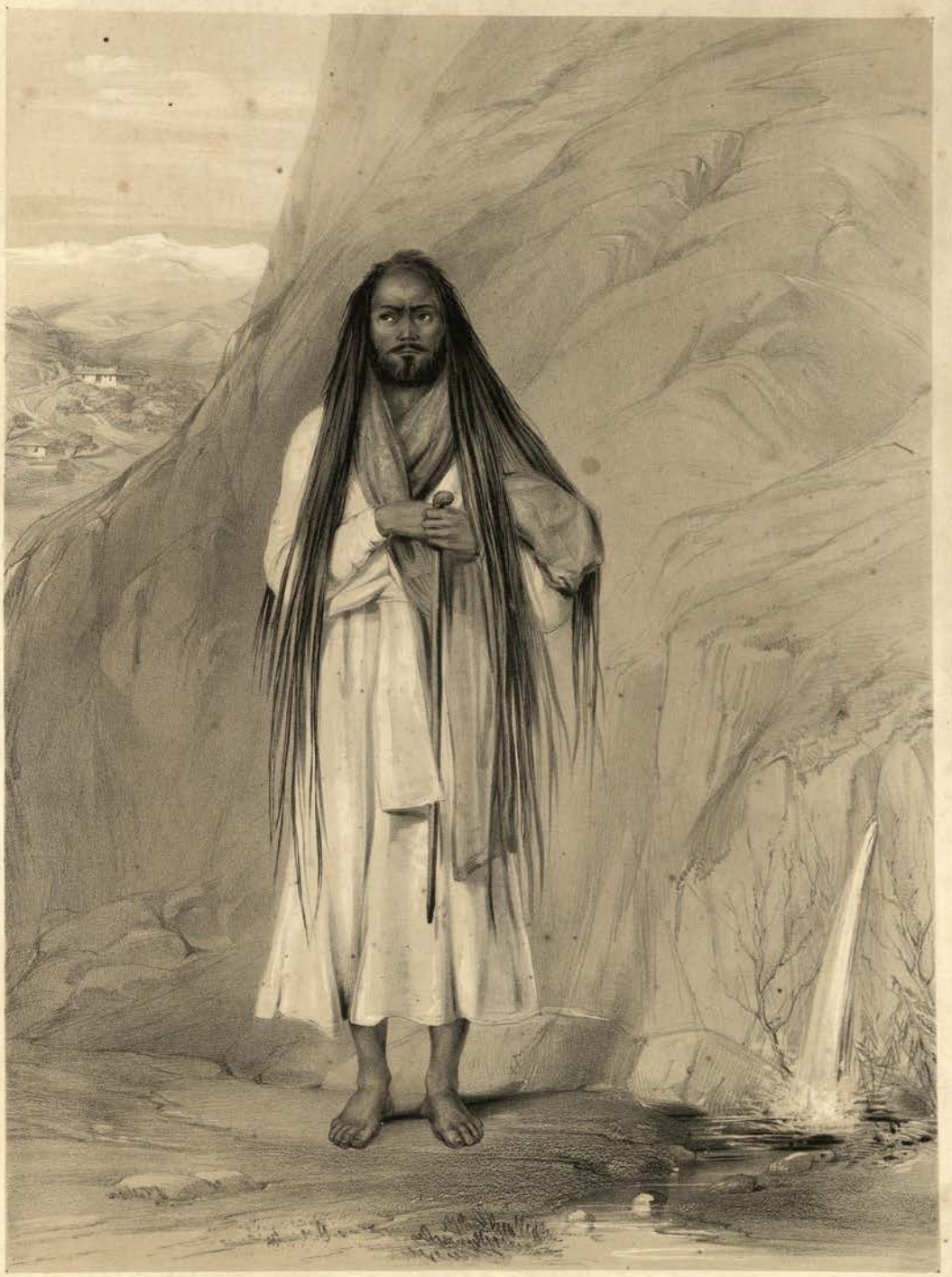
MAHARAJA SHERE SINGH, the present Sovereign of the Sikhs, son of the late Maharaja Runjeet Singh. The present Maharaja succeeded to power early in 1841. He served with honour in Runjeet Singh's Campaigns, and has always shown a peculiar friendship and regard for the European Officers in the Sikh Services.



THE MAHA-RAJA SHERE SINGH

3.

A FAKEER is a religious devotee, whether of the Mahomedan or Hindoo persuasion; the person represented in the print is a Hindoo.



A HINDOO FAKEER.

4.

The Figures in this print are Jemadars of Chuprassees, or head-men of the servants, whom it is usual to employ in India, for the purpose of taking orders, carrying letters, &c. They are generally dressed in a kind of livery suited to the native costume.

CHULLOO.
JEMADAR OR HEAD SERVANT.

DEDAR KHAN.
JEMADAR OR HEAD SERVANT.

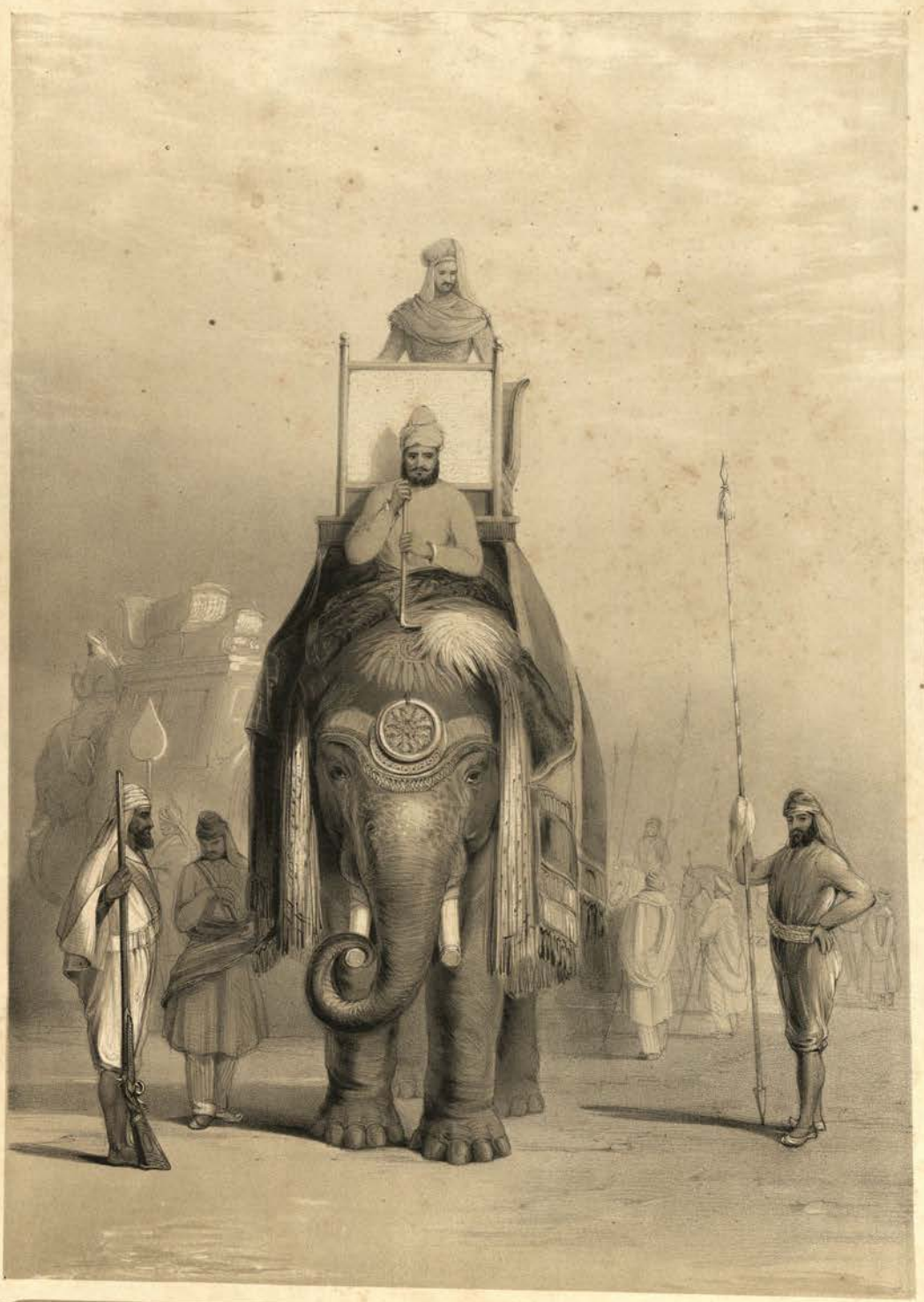
5.

AKALEES or IMMORTALS, Sikh religious devotees, being very wild in appearance, and turbulent characters. They formerly were largely employed in the Sikh armies and were often remarkable for acts of desperate courage, but their licence renders them formidable to any regular Government, and Runjeet Singh gradually reduced their numbers, and broke their power by distributing them in small companies among his disciplined battalions: their blue dresses, their high peaked turbans, the rings of steel, which they wear as the peculiar emblems of their devotion to the first great military leader of the Sikhs Gooroo Govind, and the profusion and variety of their arms make them very picturesque objects.

AKALEES.

6.

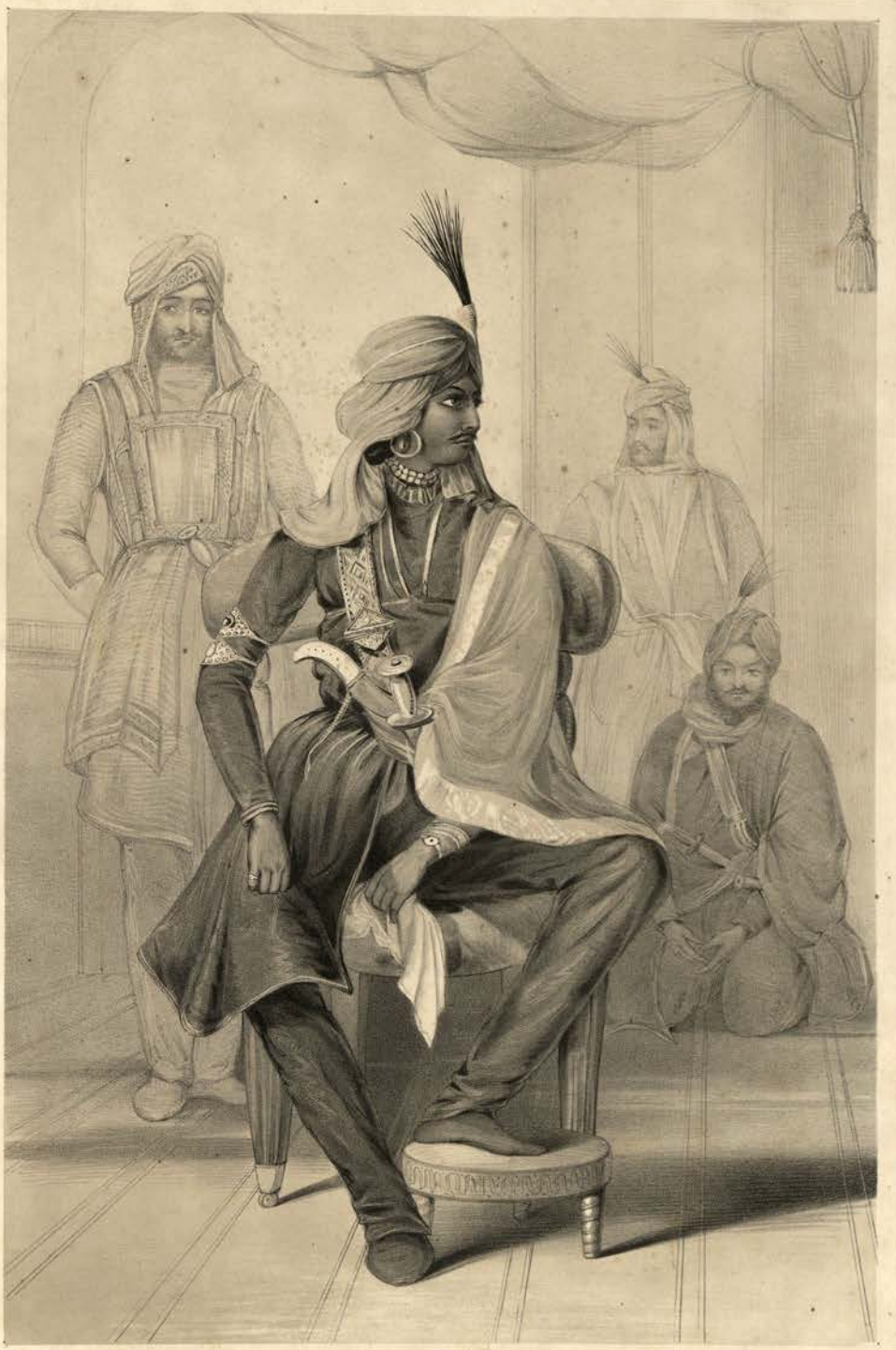
The RAJA of PUTTEEALLA is chief of the largest of the Sikh Principalities on the South Bank of the Sutlej, which owe allegiance to the British Government, and are under its protection. These Principalities were saved from subjection to Runjeet Singh, in the year 1809, through the interference of the British Government. Lord Minto was then Governor general, and Sir Charles Metcalfe was the Envoy deputed by him to restrain Runjeet Singh in his conquests south of the Sutlej. The revenues of the Raja of Putteealla are supposed to be from £300,000 to £400,000 a year.



THE RAJA OF PUTTEEALLA ON HIS STATE ELEPHANT

Raja Heera Singh, son of Raja Dhyan Singh, a principal chief of the powerful "Jummoo Family," as it is usually termed in the Punjab. The Rajahs are Rajpoots, whose town and territory of Jummoo, in the mountains North of Lahore, were conquered by the Sikhs; but by the abilities and vigour of Rajah Goolab Singh and Rajah Dhyan Singh, the uncle and father of the subject of this sketch, the family rose high in favour in the later years of Runjeet Singh's government, Raja Dhyan Singh being appointed Vizier, or First Minister of the Lahore State, and acquiring greatly extended possessions, and nearly paramount influence in the internal administration of the Sikh Provinces. Raja Dhyan Singh retains the same office, with an influence probably augmented, under the present Ruler of the Punjab, Maha Raja Sher Singh. Raja Goolab Singh is chiefly engaged in enlarging the authority of the family in the mountains, where, from his military capacity and decision, he has risen above all opposition, and holds the greater part of the country, including the district overhanging Cashmere, and has carried his arms far into Thibet, with marked alternations of success and defeat, in his contests with the authorities and troops, subjects of China, in that quarter. The Jummoo family have now a large military force of their own Rajpoot Mountaineers, wholly dependant on themselves, with a considerable effective Artillery.

Raja Heera Singh, who is here represented, was a marked personal favourite of Runjeet Singh, and was admitted to sit in his presence, when that favour was denied to the other courtiers, including his own father. He has resided chiefly at court, and has hitherto taken no prominent part in public affairs.



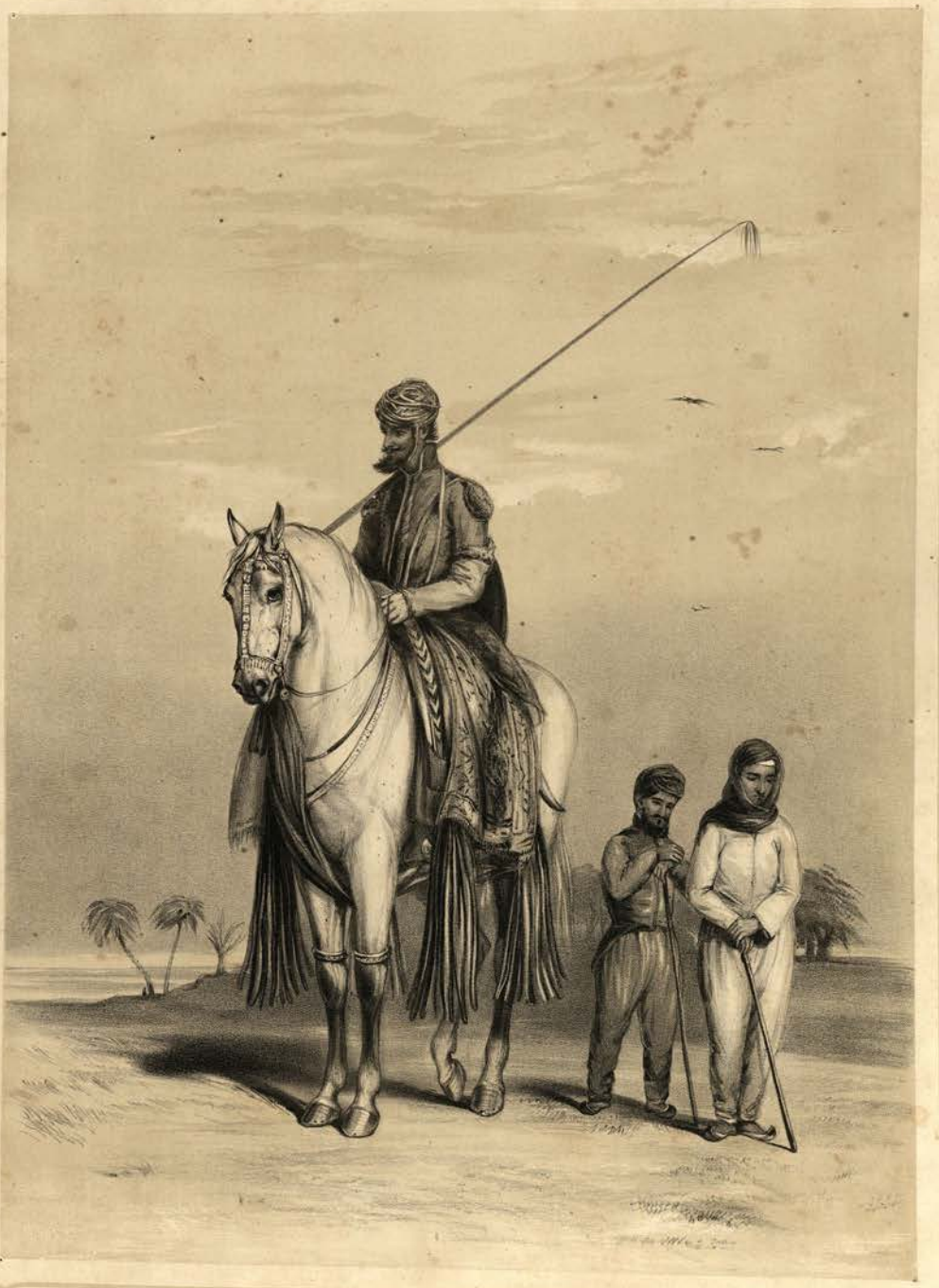
RÁJA HEERA SINGH.

8.

MEEHA RAJA HINDOO RAO, a brother of a former Female Regent of the Gwatiam or Scindiah possessions. On a Revolution at Gwatia he retired to Delhi, where he now principally resides, and where he is well known in European society, with which he is fond of mixing. Hindoo Rao is a very constant attendant on the person of the Governor General, wherever he may be in the neighbourhood of Delhi; making point, generally, of joining his suite and riding with him on his morning marches.

9.

A HIDOOSTANEE HORSEMAN of the Sikh Raja of Putteealla, on the British side of the Sutlej; a Chief of whom some account has been given in the former series. The Horseman was remarkable for an agility in feats of equestrianism which would have gained a fortune for him at Astley's. The Two Dwarfs are maintained by the Raja as a part of his state establishment of curiosity, or diversion.



A GUARD OF THE RAJAH OF PUTTEALA AND TWO OF HIS DWARFS

A YOUNG HILL RANA, or Ruler of one of the Petty States into which the Mountainous Provinces around Simla, are divided. The people in that tract are often remarkable for great regularity and handsomeness of features,---and this young Chief was a good looking, pleasing boy. These Hill Chiefs are feeble in character, and divided in interests and possessions; and they and their people fell easy victims to the Nepalese, by whom they were ruled with excessive tyranny, till they were relieved from the Nepal yoke by the conquest of the Hills by the British government.

A YOUNG HILL RAJA

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THE KING OF OUDE is, on every occasion, forward in his attention to the Governor General, when passing near the Lucknow Territory. He proffers the aid of his elephants, his kitchen, or whatever may be likely to be useful or agreeable. His establishment of dogs and hawks follows the Governor General while they may be required; and though the sport may be tame to European notions, the good feeling of the King in sending them is always cordially welcomed and acknowledged.

SERVANTS WITH DOGS AND HAWKS BELONGING TO THE KING OF OUDE.

These figures mark the peculiarity of the appearance of the Sikhs, whose rich and flowing dresses, and tall, thin forms, distinguish them strongly from other inhabitants of India. The figures represent attendants of Raja Khurruk Singh, the eldest son of Runjeet Singh, who was deputed on a complimentary mission to the Governor General at Simla. Raja Kurruk Singh succeeded his father, but was too feeble to wield his authority; he soon died, and was succeeded by his son, Nao Nehal Singh, who was shortly afterwards killed by the fall of a gateway. The fate of the family of the great founder of the Sikh power was very tragical and striking. Rao Nehal Singh was succeeded by the present Maha-Raja, Shere Singh.

ATTENDANTS ON THE RAJA KHURRUK SINGH.

13.

The late Maha Raja Runjeet Singh.

The Print represents this well-known Chieftain, in his usual attitude and dress, during his interviews with the Governor General of India, in November and December, 1838. He retained a perfect simplicity, or rather plainness of appearance, while his Chiefs and Courtiers around him wore the most brilliant draperies, and a rich profusion of jewels. His manners were always quiet, and he spoke chiefly in endless desultory questions; among which, as if without premeditation, or a particular interest in it, he introduced the one which was of importance to him. At the time at which this likeness was taken, he was partially paralised, and he said but few words to his attendants; guiding the order of his Durbar or Court, and even the movements of his troops, mainly by signs made with his forefinger, the motions of which were watched by a number of his confidential personal servants, who remained always near him. He had a curious and constant trick, while sitting and engaged in conversation, of raising one of his legs under him on the chair, which he used in compliance with the customs of his European visitors, and then pulling off the stocking from that foot. He had the use only of one eye, which age, and a hard life of exposure and excesses, had dimmed at the period now spoken of, but it still retained the traces of the vigour and penetration for which he was remarkable.

RUNJEET SINGH.

This print represents one of the favourite HORSES of the Maha Raja's Stable, with the JEMADAR, or head officer of that department of his household. The jewelled trappings of the horses were of the most costly description, the jewels being chiefly emeralds of immense size and value, hanging round the neck, covering the forehead, and fastened on the front of the saddle. The jewels and ornaments were said to have been worth above £300,000. The Maha Raja was passionately fond of horses, and he would make war on a Province to procure the surrender of any which were reputed of peculiarly pure breed. He kept them, highly fed, in large numbers, and was almost in the daily habit of inspecting them; adorning them, on occasions of particular display, with the finest jewels of his Treasury, including the celebrated large diamond, called Koh-i-Noor, or Mountain of Light.

The plate below represents some of the finest of the Jewels which the Maha Raja possessed; and which he, with great kindness, sent to the Camp of the Governor General, for the inspection of the ladies. The drawings were made from an exact measurement of the stones.

No. 1 is the famous Koh-i-Noor, or Mountain of Light. It is the largest diamond known to exist, and was taken from the peacock throne at Delhi by Nadir Shah, and Ahmed Shah Abdulee got possession of it in the pillage of Nadir Shah's tents, after his assassination. It descended to Shah Sooja; and, after he had been driven from his throne and had taken refuge in the Punjaub, it was extorted from him by Runjeet Singh, by severities almost amounting to torture. It is a magnificent stone, but the natives are unable to give that brilliancy to diamonds which the superior workmanship of European Jewellers ensure.

No. 2 represents one of the Pearls, of which the Maha-Rajah possessed three long strings, and which jewels he considered next in value to the Koh-i-Noor.

No. 3 is an uncut Ruby, on which some Persian characters were engraved.

No. 4 is a Topaz, to which stone the natives attach a greater value than we do in Europe.

No. 5, 6 and 7, are Emeralds, belonging to the trappings of the horse, and were worn on the breast and forehead, and on the saddle bow.

HORSE AND JEWELS OF RUNJEET SINGH.

15.

These are Hunting LEOPARDS of the King of Oude's Establishment, which were sent to accompany the Governor General on his march.

CHEETAS SENT BY THE KING OF OUDE TO ACCOMPANY THE GOVERNOR GENERAL.

CHEETAS SENT BY THE KING OF OUDE TO ACCOMPANY THE GOVERNOR GENERAL.

16.

The Arab Servants of Sir Alexander Burnes have the usual dress and appearance of men of their nation. It is believed that these men were connected with the Arab tribes in and near Cabool, descendants of the original Arab conquerors, at the time of the introduction of Mahomedanism into Affghanistan. These tribes still remain separate from the general Affghan population of the country.

TWO ARABS. FOLLOWERS OF THE LATE SIR A. BURNES, WHO ACCOMPANIED HIM TO SIMLA

17.

Large Indian camps have a FAKEER attached to each, who sits, with his staff stuck in the ground, and beating a drum, by the road-side, near the encamping grounds, to which he points out the path, with loud cries of prayer for the welfare of each passer by. His office is a welcome one, at the conclusion of a tedious, and often hot, morning's march; and he is generally rewarded when all the marches of a journey are over, by the contents of a subscription purse, raised among the members of the camp.

FAKEER ATTACHED TO THE SUITE OF THE GOVERNOR GENERAL IN CAMP

No. 1. This was a favourite and successful YOUNG STUDENT AT THE HINDOO COLLEGE, IN CALCUTTA, where the scholars acquire a very perfect knowledge of English, and have a familiarity with the best English writers which might shame many of our own schools. The Hindoo youths have an extraordinary aptness and precocity as scholars, and their exhibitions are very interesting and gratifying. This young student, who was the son of a native gentleman of rank in Calcutta, recited English poetry with particular grace and propriety.'

No. 2. A child of one of the servants of Government House.

A YOUNG NATIVE OF RANK AT CALCUTTA: ONE OF THE STUDENTS OF THE HINDU COLLEGE.

A LITTLE MUSSULMAN GIRL.

19.

Purtab Singh.

A melancholy interest now attaches to the fate of this young Prince, who is said to have been murdered in the recent massacre at Lahore. He lived for several weeks in Lord Auckland's Camp, in the end of 1838, while his Lordship was on a visit to the Maha Raja Runjeet Singh, in the Punjab, and used to join the dinner party in his Lordship's tent every evening, accompanying his father, the late Maha Raja Shere Singh, who was appointed by Runjeet Singh as Mehemander, or Chief in attendance on the Governor General's Camp, to provide for its wants and arrange every thing for its convenience from stage to stage.

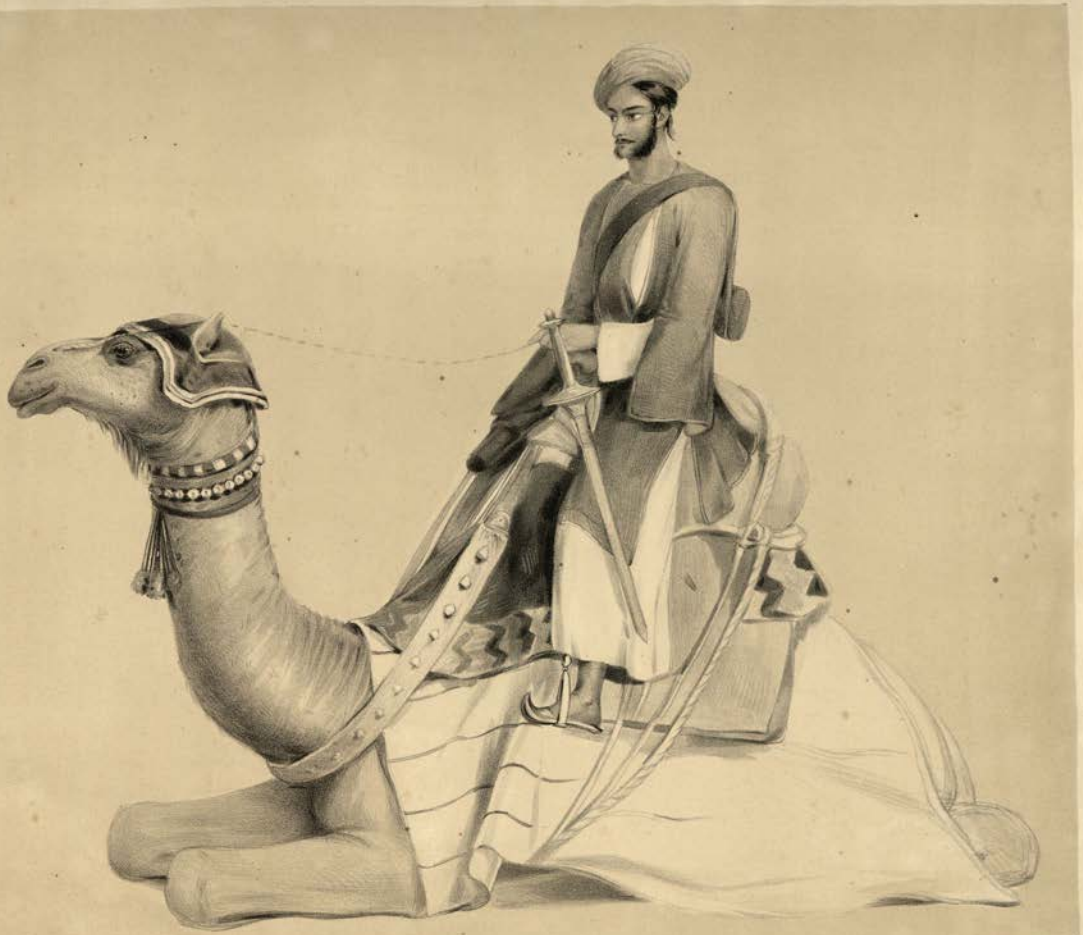
Purtab Singh was a boy of ten or twelve years old, of remarkably fine spirit and promise, with large expressive eyes, and manners which could be perfectly composed and dignified, or boyish and playful, at will. He was a great favourite with the whole of the Governor General's party; and, with them, a sincere personal regret for his untimely end must be mingled with the horror which the circumstances of his death must universally excite.

PURTAUB SINGH.

20.

A Shootr-Suwar.

This is of a class of attendants on an Indian camp, whose services are of great value in carrying intelligence and dispatches. They will ride on their camels fifty or sixty miles a day, in any emergency.



ATTENDANT ON AN INDIAN CAMP.

21.

Raja of Nahun and his Sons.

Anund Musseeh.

The first figures are of the family whose reception at Durbar has been elsewhere described.

Anund Musseeh is a man of considerable notoriety and interest in the Upper Provinces of Bengal. He is a native convert to Christianity, who was brought to renounce the Hindoo faith by the arguments of a British clergyman at the station of Meerut. He now labours as a preacher among his countrymen, and is a man of remarkable suavity, and prepossessing address and elocution. The word "Musseeh," which he has adopted in his new name, is an Arabic one, identical with the "Messiah" of our Bibles.

ANNAN MESSEE A CONVERTED HINDOO

THE RAJAH OF NAHUN AND HIS TWO SONS

22.

GROUP OF TIBET TARTARS.

These persons, with their strongly marked Tartar features, long rough hair, and loose coarse dresses, are peasants or petty traders, from the plains of Tibet, north of the Himalaya range, who descend by the snowy passes during the summer, to the lower hills, and barter their long-haired Tibetan goats, and some other rude produce, for articles of necessary use or consumption, cloths, salt, grain, &c. This group was sketched from a party who visited Simla while the Governor General lived there.

A GROUP OF THIBET TARTARS.

23.

A Zemindar, or Farmer; and a Puthan.

The first of these figures represents a respectable landholder of the Upper Provinces, in his winter dress. The second figure is that of a Mahomedan of Upper India, of the Puthan Tribe, which is of Afghan descent. The man was famous as a wrestler.

A ZEMINDAR OR FARMER OF THE UPPER PROVINCES AND A PUTHAN A FAMOUS WRESTLER.

24.

Lord Auckland receiving the Raja of Nahun in Durbar.

This print represents a Durbar, or formal reception of a Native Chief by the Governor General, though not one of the most splendid kind. The ceremonial is, however, in its general character, much the same on all these occasions. The Chief, whose reception is shown in the print, is the Raja of Nahun, a petty tributary ruler, in the lowest range of the Himalaya mountains. The Governor General sits in the centre of the row of chairs, the principal native visiter immediately on his right; and in the next chair on the right, the Government Secretary, who acts as interpreter. Beyond the Secretary is generally an Agent or Minister of the Native Chief, who is, for the most part, spokesman for his master. To the left of the Governor General is seated a near relative of the Raja, and further to the left the Governor General's own Staff. Behind are men of the Body Guard, and Servants of the Government House Establishment, in their red liveries, and with the Insignia of Mahomedan State, which continue to be used, as they were first adopted when the supreme British authority in India obtained rank as a high dignitary of the Delhi Empire. On the ground, in front of the chairs, are trays of presents brought by the Native Chiefs for the Governor General. These are lifted up during the interview, and replaced by others, containing return presents from the Governor General to the Chief. Near the trays are standing the Keeper of the Treasurer of Presents, and the Principal Native Secretary employed by the British Government. These persons are important actors in such receptions, as the former is employed in arranging the amount and value of presents received and given, and the latter keeps a book of the titles and honours due to the rank of all the Native Chiefs who are connected with the British Government.

The conversation at receptions of this formal kind is generally confined to a brief usual routine of questions---inquiries after health, routes of march, places of curiosity, &c.---mixed with boundless assurances of devotion on the part of the Chiefs, and expressions of kindness and goodwill on the part of the Governor General

LORD AUCKLAND RECEIVING THE RAJAH OF NAHUN IN DURBAR IN HIS TENT.

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